

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 6 to 44 are pending in this application; of which, claims 1, 19 and 37 are the independent claims. Favorable reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 5 to 10 and 13 to 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claims 3, 4 and 5.

Claims 1 to 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Delano et al. (U.S. Patent 6,574,661).

New claim 19 includes features of the original claim 1 and is directed to a vehicle. The vehicle includes a motor and an integrated operator workspace. The integrated operator workspace includes a base having a first longitudinal edge and a second longitudinal edge, a first operator station located adjacent to the first longitudinal edge of the base and a second operator station located adjacent to the second longitudinal edge of the base. The vehicle also includes electronic equipment coupled to the first operator station and the second operator station. The first operator station and the second operator station are separated by a first predetermined space for permitting substantially unimpeded ingress and egress of the integrated operator workspace by at least a first user operating at the first operator station and at least a second user operating at the second operator station.

The applied art is not understood to disclose or to suggest the foregoing features of claim 19. In particular, Fryer does not disclose or suggest a motor. Fryer describes a trailer without a motor (see FIGS. 1 and 2 of Fryer). Therefore, Applicants believe that claim 19 is allowable.

New claim 37 includes features of the original claim 1 and is directed to a vehicle. The vehicle includes an integrated operator workspace. The integrated operator workspace includes a base having a first longitudinal edge and a second longitudinal edge. The first longitudinal edge of the base includes a first raised platform and the second longitudinal edge of the base includes a second raised platform. The integrated operator workspace also includes a first operator station located adjacent to the first longitudinal edge of the base and a second operator station located adjacent to the second longitudinal edge of the base. The integrated operator workspace further includes electronic equipment coupled to the first operator station and the second operator station. The first operator station and the second operator station are separated by a first predetermined space for permitting substantially unimpeded ingress and egress of the integrated operator workspace by at least a first user operating at the first operator station and at least a second user operating at the second operator station.

The applied art is not understood to disclose or to suggest the foregoing features of claim 37. In particular, Fryer does not disclose or suggest that a first longitudinal edge of the base includes a first raised platform and the second longitudinal edge of the base includes a second raised platform. Fryer includes only one platform (see reference 19 in FIG. 2 of Fryer). Therefore, Applicants believe that claim 37 is allowable.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants request withdrawal of the art rejection.

Applicants submit that all dependent claims now depend on allowable independent claims.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicants submit that the entire application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

All correspondence should be directed to the address below. Applicants' attorney can be reached by telephone at (781) 401-9988 ext. 23.

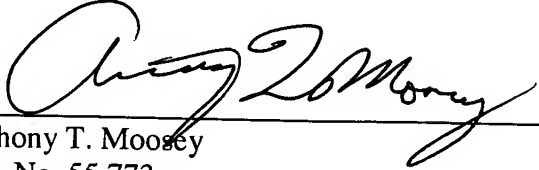
Applicants: Bergeron et al.
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Enclosed is a check for \$1,200.00 for excess claim fees. No other fee is believed to be due for this Response; however, if any other fees are due, please apply such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0845 referencing Attorney Docket.

Respectfully submitted,

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